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JULY, 1826.

[NO. V.

REVIEW OF THE
Memoirs of the Life of Granville Sharp.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 109.)

WHILE thus employed for the relief of oppressed English citizens, Mr. Sharp continued to feel a deep concern in the fate of the American colonists, and apprehended, with sincere and patriotic grief, the disastrous results of that contest which finally dismembered the British empire.

His extraordinary philanthropy, as well as able defence of the rights of the people, had given him a high reputation in America, and, by the influence of his opinions, he became, though perhaps unconsciously, a powerful instrument in the work of our National Independence. His "Declaration of the rights of the people to a share in the Legislature," transmitted to America by Dr. Franklin in 1774, was re-printed at Boston, in an edition of seven thousand copies, and was subsequently re-published both in New-York and Philadelphia. He was made acquainted with the success of his pamphlet, by eminent individuals in this country; and from this intercourse, it is believed, the idea was derived, that "Mr. Sharp was *secretly* employed in a kind of diplomatic capa-

city by the heads of the United States, to treat for their interests with the parent country.* That he was considered a warm and disinterested friend to the Americans, is unquestionable. But his integrity never diminished his patriotism, nor his concern for the colonies, his loyalty to the king. He refused to array himself under the banners of a faction, and the following memorandum will show, that he knew how to conduct with perfect honor as an Englishman; while he could not approve of the measures of his government:

"Nov. 23, 1778.—Received a letter from my friend Mr. ———, inviting me to dine with him on Tuesday next, to meet governor ———, in these terms: 'Our governor ———, would be happy to have the pleasure of meeting you, and of deploring with you, in friendly confidence, the misery and ruin of this devoted country,' &c. This was so like the style in which the governor sought private conferences in America, that I thought it prudent to send an immediate answer, that I was sorry I could not wait on him."

Men of eminent purity and rectitude, not unfrequently, perhaps, err in estimating the amount of their moral influence. They are too little aware of the wide difference which separates them from the mass of society, and of the weight of imagined interest and the force of passions by which their opinions are counteracted. But the success of Mr. Sharp's writings in America, as well as his conscious integrity, led him to indulge the hope that his own countrymen would listen to his suggestions. Such an expectation, though illusive, stimulated him to exertion, until it was impossible not to perceive that his efforts were vain.

In 1777, being informed by two American gentlemen, perfectly acquainted with the affairs of their country, "that the United States, notwithstanding their late declaration of independence, were still inclined to a re-union with England even *under the crown*, provided his majesty's ministers would give them a *proof of their sincerity*, and having ascertained that the proof required, was an acknowledgment of *their natural rights as British subjects*, and that if the offer of such acknowledgment were not made by England, within six months, the door of reconciliation would be forever closed, Mr. Sharp held a long conference with the secretary of state on the expediency of exhibiting such dispositions on the part of government, as might bring back America to al-

* An opinion of this kind was expressed in an obituary account, though Mr. Hoare considers it without foundation.

legiance to the British crown." It was made evident during this interview, that the American colonies would demand such an alteration in the House of Commons as would secure to them the rights enjoyed by the counties of England. Mr. Sharp spent several days in searching for precedents to justify such a change, and submitted them to his lordship. But with this he was not satisfied. He tendered his personal services to the Duke of Richmond, asserting with his usual warmth, "that he would undertake to bring back the American empire to a constitutional allegiance under the crown of Great Britain, and added, that he would pledge his life for the success, provided a proper pledge could be given of our sincerity in treating." He produced his reasons for this confidence, which were, his conversations with many intelligent Americans, and the singular favour which the people of the United States had shown to his writings. The general approbation of his pamphlet was unequivocal evidence, that the elements of disunion had no *necessary* existence in America, and the prevailing belief in his sincerity, as a lover of peace and liberty, might, he hoped, compensate for his deficiency (as he modestly described it) in the talents of speech, memory, or art.

In these meritorious labours, Mr. Sharp was seconded by general Oglethorpe, who recommended him to lord Chatham, "and many years after, he had the melancholy gratification, of finding that his plan was indeed submitted to the ministry; but that it wanted other arguments than those of peace and charity, to procure its adoption." It was overruled, and the fatal term expired.*

But the failure of Mr. Sharp in this great project of reconciliation, did not check his ardour or his energy in the cause of God and man. The zeal which animated him was Divine, and even when disappointed, his spirit derived refreshment and strength from the Fountain of Living Waters. The account of his renewed attempts to relieve the Africans, is introduced by his biographer, with the following impressive passage:

* Mr. Hoare says, he has not been able to discover from what source the proposal of a six months' interval proceeded. He thinks the nature of the transaction might have demanded secrecy as to its *movers*. Mr. Hoare further adds, "I am enabled to add a confirmation of Mr. Sharp's statement, from an American of high respectability, residing in this country; who, in August, 1815, related to me, that two brothers of the name of ———, one of whom had for many years been resident in London, were the persons employed to hold forth the propositions of reconciliation, between the two countries."

"His efforts to suspend the mutual bloodshed of the two countries having failed, Granville once more bent his thoughts, and with increased earnestness, to the subject of African slavery, on which he entertained hopes of making a far more successful progress. In the memorandums which are next to be laid before the reader, will be found the spring that set in motion the vast and important engine of public opinion, in regard to the abolition of the infamous slave trade. It is impossible not to be impressed with fresh admiration, when we behold the indefatigable constancy of a virtuous man in the cause of his helpless fellow-creatures. Immeasurable as the distance of redress and the difficulty of the enterprize appeared to be, his mind was fixed on an attempt to eradicate that disgrace of a civilized empire. He was aware that he was without power; but perseverance and the span of life were in his hands, and he resolved on devoting both to the benevolent purpose of his ambition. The zeal with which his first applications were met, and which gave confidence to his endeavours, will also claim our respect. The honour of our country is involved in both.

The reader is well acquainted with the progress in America, of a friendly disposition towards the negro slaves, which had first manifested itself about the year 1770, and which has been shown also in the letter of the Quaker, Benezet. It was increased in 1773, by the literary labours of Dr. Rush, of Philadelphia, whose writings had a very extensive circulation, and served greatly to promote the good cause for which they were undertaken. In 1774, Dr. Rush, in conjunction with James Pemberton, and others of the most conspicuous among the Friends in Pennsylvania, undertook to unite, in one body, all those of different religious persuasions, who were zealous in behalf of the African sufferers; and hence arose a society, which was confined to Pennsylvania, and was the first of that nature ever formed in America.

This society had scarcely begun to act, when the war broke out with England, and materially checked its operations. The *cause*, however, did not languish in the minds of good men, although, from the calamitous circumstances that followed the commencement of an unnatural contest, it was unfortunately confined to those alone.

Mr. Sharpe's mental engagements bound him alike to the service of religion and freedom; and a sense of his united duties, appeared strongly in the conduct which he adopted respecting the condition of African slaves. It has been stated to be the natural bias of his disposition, to turn at once to the most powerful sources of aid, in every arduous undertaking. His deeply religious sentiments had led him to a just consideration of the advantages to be derived from the important character of the dignitaries of our church; and he was readily induced to believe, that a vigorous appeal to men of exalted christian principles, could not be hopeless. The ministers of that religion which had first broken down the hostile barriers between nation and nation, and had in its progress abolished slavery in a large part of the world, he conceived to be the fittest, and therefore likely to be the warmest advocates for the perfecting so great a work, and diffusing the love and charity of the gospel over the furthest corners of the earth."

It appears, that soon after the decision in the case of Somerset, Mr. Sharp had addressed a letter to Mr. Lloyd, for the perusal of the arch-bishop of York (Dr. Drummond) with whose disposition to aid the cause of freedom, he had been made acquainted. Apprehensive as he was, that slavery would be countenanced by parliament the next winter, he spoke of his intention to address the right reverend bishops and clergy, and submit it to their consideration, whether this matter did not demand their intervention. As watchful pastors of the flock, and ministers of the gospel of peace, he deemed it their solemn duty to exert their utmost abilities to prevent national injustice, and to oppose any measures which might tend to render manners licentious, or the heart inhuman. He knew that the clergy had immense influence. He thought it for the honor of the church, that this influence should be exerted in favour of the Africans. He saw that a union among the venerable bishops for this purpose, would conciliate the dissenters. Thus, numerous and powerful motives were combined to stimulate him in his applications and appeals to the clergy of England;—nor did he appeal in vain. In 1779 he writes, “This spring, I have at different times, had the honor of conversing with twenty-two out of the twenty-six arch-bishops and bishops, on the subject of the slave trade, during the time that the African affairs were under the consideration of a committee of the house of commons; and I met with none that did not concur with my sentiments on the subject.” Most of them expressed their determination to oppose any encouragement of this traffic, should it come up for discussion before the house of lords.

What responsibility (for it is difficult to resist the reflection) is imposed upon the ministry, by the opportunities, means, and influence, with which it is favoured in every christian land! The first object of the clergy is, indeed, to secure the immortal interests of mankind, but they also deal in matters not less closely connected with the welfare and duties of domestic and civil life. Upon them, more than any other class of men, depends the peace and purity of families, and the justice and stability of governments. The moral principles which they do or ought to promulgate, constitute the basis alike of individual welfare and national strength. By these are all human rights defined; by these should be regulated all human relations. While it belongs not to the instructors in christianity to meddle with affairs of mere secu-

lar concernment, it is theirs, by establishing within the soul a dominion of righteousness, and by reducing under the Divine Law, all the springs of human action, to govern with an influence silent, benign, free and universal as the light of Heaven, not only the faculties of individuals, but the institutions of states and empires. That christianity has nothing to do with government, is a doctrine equally false and dangerous. The only just government, is that, which, throughout its whole system, is pervaded by the spirit of christianity. Morality is one and the same thing, in individuals and social bodies. In the latter, it may admit of more various and extensive application;—still, of political institutions, *christian equity* ought to be the foundation; and of all their operations, *christian charity* the moving power. To the admonitions of the clergy, the popular mind is always accessible; and we trust, their pious influence will ever be exerted in our own country, to purify the fountains of law, and prevent the abuses of power.

In his correspondence and interviews with the bishops, Mr. Sharp aimed not merely at the suppression of the slave trade, but also, at such parliamentary reform, as might contribute to bring the negotiations with America to a favourable termination. He now published (in 1780) the tract which he had prepared at the request of lord Dartmouth, entitled, “Equitable representation necessary to the establishment of law, peace, and good government,” and in the spring of the same year, three other tracts, concerning annual parliaments. “My first motive,” he says, “for interfering in political reformation, was an earnest desire to promote *peace with America*; the two subjects being connected with each other, and both with tolerating slavery in America.” To advance the work of political improvement, he instituted a correspondence with committees of associations formed for that object, in many of the counties of England, conversed with the secretary of the treasury, proposed a meeting of the bishops, to consider the dangerous state of public affairs, and neglected nothing which might conduce to the fulfilment of his design.

His anxiety to bring to an end the contest with America, will be more manifest from the following notes in his manuscript:

“March 15, 1781. Mr. Laurens, late President of Congress, and his family, called here.

“June 21. Having received information from Mr. ——— that while he was in Holland, on account of business, he had some opportunities of con-

versation with Mr. Adams, the American envoy; from whose discourse, he gathered, that it was not too late to treat with America for peace and commerce, *provided their independence was not denied*. I went this morning to the duke of ———, but he was out of town.

"23. Waited on lord Dartmouth, at Black-heath. I informed his lordship of the possibility of still treating with America, provided independency was admitted. He said, as both parties seemed to be agreed, that America ought to be dependent on parliament, it would be extremely dangerous for any minister to admit the independence, as he would be liable to be impeached for treason. I urged the necessity of peace. He said "the parliament had very fairly offered the full, free constitution of England, in 1778; but I appealed to his lordship, in reply, whether I had not clearly stated, in March, 1777, that no terms short of independency could be accepted, *six months after the time I waited on him*. The failure therefore, of the proposal, *twelve months afterwards*, was only a proof of the truth of my former information."

Mr. Sharp also stated, that lord North was convinced in March, 1778, of the necessity of acknowledging the independence of America, but was intimidated by the opposition of lords Chatham and Shelbourne, &c. but that now, the absurdity of opposing such a measure was so evident, he thought no party would attempt to counteract it. He further added, that he would run any risk to make peace; that he hoped his lordship would weigh these considerations, and command his personal services, if in any way they could be usefully employed. About this time, the following anonymous letter was received by Mr. Sharp:

September 22d, 1781.

"DEAR SIR:

Though my name will not be at the end of this letter, I must entreat your particular attention to the following extract of a letter I have just received from a person of great worth in Holland, and who loves England most cordially, notwithstanding he is much in the confidence of a *principal person on the American side of the question, now in Europe*.

'Look out, and find a sensible, honest man in office, and conjure him to save his country from eternal ruin, by making up matters immediately with America. The first cost will be the least; the longer the matter is delayed, the more will America be estranged from England.

'The interest and power of France increase daily, owing to the inconsiderate persistence of the English councils, which drives the Americans to the necessity of defending and securing themselves by every possible means. Nothing can be more fatal to England, than that France should have the absolute settlement of the terms of peace. And yet this will be the case, if a great and liberal conduct is not immediately pursued. I cannot explain myself, but I entreat you to consider this as no slight hint: *the Englishman who does, is an enemy to his country.*'

"Thus far for my friend, for whose veracity and sincerity, I will stake every thing which is near and dear to me, and to which I add, 'Carpe diem quam minimum credule posteri.' ""*

This letter was submitted to lord Dartmouth, and copies were enclosed to the bishop of Peterborough, and the arch-bishop of Canterbury. Mr. Sharp also waited upon the arch-bishop of Canterbury, and urged the propriety of a union among the bishops, to move for the termination of the ruinous war.

But while thus occupied with this great object, other matters of public interest did not escape his vigilant and benevolent attentions. "His desire of public beneficence, was become an intelligent spirit of legal liberty; and his feelings were excited by every important occurrence, and every public measure, which touched in any material part our constitution, or our relative condition in society."

The menacing aspect of public affairs, rendered it important to adopt measures for the defence of the city of London; and Mr. Sharp exhibited his usual ardour and energy for the furtherance of the object.

Aug. 21, 1781. This morning called on the following aldermen, Bull, Plumer, Clark, then on Mr. Vaughan,† who immediately went, at my request, to the Lord Mayor.

He soon after called on me, and said the Lord Mayor desired to speak with me, at six o'clock. I went accordingly, and had a great deal of discourse on the training the citizens to arms, for their own defence, in case of an invasion. As he wanted information concerning the militia laws of London, I promised to search for some remarks, which I had drawn up in June, 1780, soon after the riots. These I delivered to his lordship this morning, with some further remarks on the state of the city militia.

* This will, no doubt, says Mr. Hoare, remind the reader of some anonymous publications, written by Dr. Franklin, while in England; and it was perhaps, from this cause, that Mr. Sharp attached so considerable importance to it. Much of this *unauthorized agency* appeared during the war.

† Benjamin Vaughan, Esq. L. L. D. former member of parliament; a gentleman eminent for his learning and philanthropy. For many years past, he has resided at Hallowell, in the state of Maine; highly respected for his knowledge, hospitality, and virtue. The editor of this journal is greatly indebted to him, for several interesting facts concerning Mr. Sharp, and also, for the loan of a volume of his admirable tracts. Mr. Vaughan's library is not, we believe, exceeded in value and extent, by any private collection of books in the United States.

It was about this time, also, that a correspondence took place between lord Carysfort and Mr. Sharp, respecting the affairs of Ireland. The feelings of the latter were a short time after, much excited by the famous motion of Mr. Grattan, in the Irish House of Commons, "asserting the right of Ireland to legislate for itself, and that the claims of any body of men other than the king, lords, and commons of Ireland, to make laws to bind that kingdom, were unconstitutional and illegal." Letters were addressed by Mr. Sharp, in a style of unusual boldness, to the duke of Portland, Mr. Fox, secretary of state, and the duke of Richmond, on this subject, and the success of Mr. Grattan's motion, and one of the first subsequent acts of the new ministry, expedited the passing of an act expressly removing the legislative authority of the British parliament, in relation to Ireland.

Nor did Mr. Sharp feel less concern for the public morals, than for the political justice of England. The shameful change of the habits of the two sexes in the theatres, gave him great offence, and he requested the bishop of London to confer with the arch-bishop of Canterbury, and by application to the lord Chamberlain, prevent such violation of decorum and good manners. "He also presented a remonstrance to the arch-bishop of York, whose son had acted the part of *Thais* in Terence's comedy of the Eunuch, at Westminster school. He read his remonstrance, also, to Dr. Smith, the master of the school, who promised to represent it to the bishop of Rochester, and said, that the plays might be prevented *next year*; but the custom of acting them had continued for two hundred years, and (he believed) was enjoined by the statutes."

Who that has accompanied us thus far in these interesting memoirs, does not feel a sentiment of admiration, not only for the singular CONSCIENTIOUSNESS of Granville Sharp, but for his remarkable obedience to that Divine injunction, in view of the shortness of life, so appropriate, and of our responsibility, so impressive, "*Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might.*" He was not less prompt in action, than correct in judgment. The distinct sight of his object, was instantly followed by the pursuit of it. He appears to have laboured like one, who perceived that life was too short to allow of his executing all the plans of his benevolence. With his loins girded, and his lamp ever burning in faith, patience, and works of charity, he waited to give in his

account to the Judge of All. Undaunted by opposition, and unwearied in effort, careless of all fame which was not built on virtue, but truly ambitious of heavenly honours, he devoted his time and his talents to mankind and to God.

(To be continued.)

Memoir of the Sufferings, &c. of the American Colonists.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 119.)

The settlers were particularly embarrassed by their uncertainty as to the actual connexion subsisting between their neighbours of the larger island, and their enemy. Bă Caiă, who was at the head of the former, had constantly held forth the most friendly professions; and at this time, by secretly supplying them with fuel and water, gave a more substantial proof than ever, of their sincerity. But his plantations and numerous detached bodies of his people, were entirely exposed to the power of the Deys, with whom it was of the first necessity for him to maintain an amicable correspondence. Hence he came unavoidably to incur the suspicions of the colonists, who, from the proximity of his town, could at any hour lay it in ashes. Bă Caiă had, for many years, sustained himself in his unprotected and delicate situation by means of a fortunate alliance with king Boatswain*, one of the most fa-

* Boatswain is a native of Shebar. In his youth he had served in some menial capacity on board of an English merchant vessel, where he acquired the name which he still retains. His personal qualifications are of the most commanding description; and to them he appears wholly indebted for his present notoriety. To a stature approaching seven feet in height, perfectly erect, muscular, and finely proportioned—a countenance noble, intelligent, and full of animation—he unites great comprehension and activity of mind, and, what is still more imposing, a savage loftiness and even grandeur of sentiment—forming altogether, an assemblage of qualities, obviously disproportioned to the actual sphere of his ambition. He is prodigal of every thing except the means of increasing the terror of his name. “I give you a bullock,” said he to an agent of the Society, “not to be considered as Boatswain’s present, but for your breakfast.” To his friend Ba Caia, he once sent, “King B. is your friend: he therefore advises you to lose not a moment in providing yourself plenty of powder and ball—or, in three days (the least time possible to make the journey) let me see my fugitive woman again.”

mous and powerful chiefs of the Condoes. Boatswain's power had been often felt by the maritime tribes, and the most convincing proofs of it were continually given in his bloody wars in the interior. He had thus been long acquiring a general influence, which gave him, even in the affairs of his neighbours, an authority little short of dictatorial. To this powerful ally, the old man now had recourse; who, with the promptitude which distinguishes all his movements, immediately made his appearance on the Montserado, not, as he said, to *pronounce sentence*, between the coast people and the strangers, but to *do justice*: and he had actually brought along with him a force sufficient to carry his decisions into immediate effect. But the Deys, however stung by this insolence, were not in a situation to resent it.

The Agents who had been absent from the Cape since the commencement of these trying events, now rejoined the settlers on the island. Boatswain having by a direct exertion of authority, convoked the head-chiefs of the neighbourhood, sent for the Agents and principal settlers, to come and explain the nature of their claims on the country, and to set forth their grievances. They complained of the 'bad faith of the Deys in withholding the possession of lands which they had sold to the colonists; and of the injurious acts of hostility committed by king George, apparently with the consent of his superiors.' A desultory and noisy discussion followed, in which the savage umpire disdained to take any part whatever. But having ascertained the prominent facts of the case, he at length arose, and put an end to the assembly by laconically remarking to the Deys, "That having sold their country, and accepted the payment in part, they must take the consequences. Their refusal of the balance of the purchase money, did not annul, or affect the bargain. Let the Americans have their lands immediately. Whoever is not satisfied with my decision, let him tell me so!" Then, turning to the Agents, "I promise you protection. If these people give you further disturbance, send for me. And I swear, if they oblige me to come again to quiet them, I will do it to purpose, by taking their heads from their shoulders; as I did old king George's, on my last visit to the coast, to settle disputes."

Whatever might be thought of the equity of this decision, there was but one sentiment as to the necessity of acquiescing in it. The usual interchange of friendly presents between the parties,

then took place ; and the settlers immediately resumed their labours on the Cape.

That guardian Providence which has so graciously made the protection of this infant settlement, in every stage, the object of its tenderest care, has in few instances been more conspicuous, than in thus employing the ill-gotten power of an ambitious stranger in the interior of Africa, to deliver the colonists, at a moment when hostilities would have defeated their object, from the machinations of their treacherous neighbours. To render this interposition the more remarkable, it had actually proceeded to the length of removing the principal obstacles to the pacification of the Deys, almost without an effort on the part of the settlers, and entirely without the knowledge, or the presence, of either of the Agents. There would be a degree of impiety in repressing in the breast the sentiment of religious recognition, which a single dispensation of so impressive a character is fitted to excite. But it must be perceived, in the progress of this narrative, that every instance of extraordinary providential deliverance and protection, borrows a more affecting lustre from the reflected light of many others.

On the 28th of April, the ceremony of taking possession of the Cape and country was performed, with probably the effect of adding a fresh excitement to the zeal of the people. But, shall we most deplore, or admire in human nature, that weakness which can so easily mistake the present visions of hope, for the prophecies of futurity ? On the very spot which was gladdened with the felicitations of this occasion, some who were the objects of them, were soon, alas ! to pour out their lives through the wounds received in a doubtful contest for that very occupation which they had so blindly anticipated !

But shortly after this formality, a proof of a much more significant and substantial nature, was afforded by the people, of the entire sincerity of every former profession of attachment to the country of their adoption.

The houses were yet destitute of roofs, for which the material was to be sought in the almost impracticable swamps of the country—the rainy-season-tornadoes had already commenced—the island, if much longer occupied by all the colonists, must prove the grave of many—sickness was beginning to be prevalent ; and both the Agents were among the sufferers—the store of provisions was

scanty, and all other stores nearly exhausted ! The threatening storm of native hostility had been, for a moment, averted—but the very circumstances attending the dispersion of the cloud, proved how suddenly and how easily it might re-collect its fury. Under these circumstances, deliberately surveyed, it required a very large share of operative confidence in the providence of the Most High, not to have yielded to the discouragement they so strongly tended to create : and it is not to be admired, that the Agent should have come forward with a proposal to re-embark the settlers, and stores, and convey them back to Sierra Leone. But from this proposal a large majority of the people entirely dissented ; and it was urged no farther. And could we estimate events according to their intrinsic importance, independently of their disguising or concealing circumstances, that interesting moment would doubtless form the era, whence the real occupation of Africa ought to date ; and which deserves its annual celebration, as long as the colony shall afford an asylum to the oppressed strangers of Africa. For the little band who embraced, under prospects so replete with the most appalling difficulties and dangers, the resolution of remaining on the Montserado, however abandoned, gave in the very act, the best pledge in their power to offer,—a pledge in which their property, their health, their families, and their lives were included, to find for themselves, and their brethren, a home in Africa. And it is a pledge I add, which an approving Providence has since enabled them, at the expense of some blood, and many severe toils, triumphantly to redeem.

Mr. Wiltberger, the Society's assistant Agent, consented to await with the people, the return of the schooner from another trip to the windward. But the number of the settlers, small at first, was yet farther reduced by the departure along with Dr. Ayres, of a small number who had embraced his proposal. Exclusive of the women and children and four native Africans, the little force remaining, numbered 21 persons capable of bearing arms.

The settled rains of the season now set in with uncommon violence : and the struggles and hardships encountered by this houseless, but persevering band, are not easily to be imagined. But before the last of May, several families had removed and taken up their residence on the Peninsula ; a store-house sufficient to contain their stores was built of good materials ; and a small frame house finished for the Agent.

In the second week of July, the island was finally evacuated, and all were happily re-united, each in his own humble dwelling, on the spot where they have since remained. The Agents had in the interim both embarked on board of the only public schooner fit for service, and sailed for the United States. The settlement was left under the supervision of one of the emigrants,* who acquitted himself of the charge with entire credit, and at the present time enjoys in the municipal government one of the most respectable situations in the gift of the people.

It will be readily perceived that no part of the provisions necessary for the consumption of the settlers in the present season, could be drawn from the produce of the soil. Vessels seldom appear on the coast between the months of May and November ; and, as the event proved, nothing in that period could be purchased from abroad. The most economical management of the stores on hand, could not make them last more than half the season of the rains ; and the natives treacherously waiting the departure of Boatswain into the interiour, and the disappearance of the little armed schooner, belonging to the Colony, on her voyage for the United States, replaced themselves in an attitude of incipient hostility, and prohibited the conveyance of supplies to the Colony out of the surrounding country. To add if possible to the dark and desperate prospects of the settlers, the stores in their possession had been reported to the managers at home, as nearly equal to a twelvemonth's consumption. But the eye of God was upon them. His providence was again interposed for their preservation.

The Government of the United States having a number of Africans in the custody of the marshal of Georgia, who had been liberated a few months previously, from the hold of a slave-vessel by the operation of the benevolent law of 1819, determined at this time on the transportation of them to their native country. A vessel was chartered for this service in Baltimore ; on board of which 37 persons, under the patronage of the Colonization Society, were also embarked, with a moderate supply of stores for the settlement.

This expedition was committed to the direction of Mr. J. Ashmun, who, in the expectation of aiding a good work to which much of his time and labour had been already devoted in the

* Elijah Johnson, from New-York, in 1820.

United States, had consented to accept from the Society a commission for the voyage. Under an arrangement for returning in the same vessel, he had yielded to the affectionate solicitude of his lady to accompany him. This vessel, the brig "Strong," of Baltimore, sailed from Hampton Roads on the 26th of May; but proving a most indifferent sailor, did not arrive in the offing of Fayal, one of the western islands, before the 26th of June. Having at this island repaired the injury sustained in a very severe and protracted gale, and refreshed the already exhausted passengers, she sailed again on the 3d of July, and anchored under Cape Montserado on the 8th of August. Of 55 passengers not an individual had suffered from indisposition on the last half of this tedious voyage.

The following day, on communicating with the shore, Mr. Ashmun found, equally to his astonishment and regret, that both the Agents had taken their departure from the country—that the public property, as already related, had been chiefly consumed by fire—and that the immediate prospects of the settlers, precarious before on account of their numerical weakness in the midst of barbarous nations, was but little improved by an accession of numbers, without a proportional increase of the means of subsisting them. It was now the height of the rainy season; but not even a thatch roof was to be found not in the occupancy of the settlers—some of whom were still very insufficiently sheltered themselves. Houses were therefore to be built for the reception of the emigrants before they could be safely landed; and a secure store house, completed before it was possible to discharge the transport.

Mr. Ashmun found himself constrained, by the pledge he had given the Board of Managers, to render the Colony whatever aid might be in his power, and by every motive which humanity could supply, to take charge of the Colony, and convert its slender resources, whether for the protection, or subsistence of the people, to the best account. A large store-house was accordingly laid off, and the only practicable preparations made, during the 9th, for landing the passengers. But in the morning of the same day, the brig having unfortunately parted a cable, was obliged to throw out the only remaining anchor on board; by which she was lying when the Agent returned on board in the evening.

But, at day light on the 10th, the watch gave the alarming intelligence that the cable had again parted, and the best bower anchor gone! The vessel was lying two cable's length from the beach,

and a strong breeze blew directly on shore. But the current from the river favouring at the moment, the vessel was by the prompt exertions of an active crew, got under sail in time to save her from immediate destruction ; and by being brought close to the wind, was enabled to make good a course parallel with that part of the coast. The passengers, to the number of 51, were still on board. The brig's boats could not land ten persons at a trip ; and after struggling for 48 hours to get to windward, the vessel was found to be land-locked completely, within the projecting promontories of Capes Montserado and Mount. The reader in the least acquainted with nautical affairs, may conjecture the probable fate both of the vessel and passengers. But Providence again interposed for the preservation of both. A small anchor was recovered by the assistance of the boats, by which the brig was again moored in the road-stead ; but at the distance of 5 miles from the settlement. The people were safely landed on the 13th and 14th ; but owing to the prevalence of boisterous weather, the loss of the principal boat employed in the service, and the sickening of the boatmen, it became a work of the most severe and difficult nature, to bring her cargo to land. In the Colonial Journal of this period, several instances are met with in which the only boat that could be employed in this business, was carried twenty miles out to sea by the force of the currents, and returned at the end of 24 hours, without having been able to approach within a league of the brig ! But after four weeks of incessant exertion, the Agent enjoyed the satisfaction of seeing the passengers and property all safe ashore ; the latter secured in an extensive store-house ; and most of the former in a good measure protected from the incessant rains of that inclement season.

In the mean time the Agent had lost not a moment in ascertaining the external relations of the settlement, and the temper of its neighbours. He immediately proceeded to visit the most considerable of the kings ; whom he thought it safe to bind to a pacific policy, by encouraging them to open a trade with the Colony—by forming with them new amicable alliances—and receiving the sons and subjects of as many as possible to instruct in the language and arts of civilization. But it could not escape observation that under these smooth and friendly appearances, lurked a spirit of determined malignity, which only waited for an opportunity to exert itself for the ruin of the infant Colony. So early as the

18th of August, the present Martello tower was therefore planned ; a company of labourers employed by the Agent, in clearing the ground on which it stands ; and a particular survey taken of the military strength, and means of the settlers. Of the native Americans, 27, when not sick, were able to bear arms ; but they were wholly untrained to their use ; and capable in their present undisciplined state of making but a very feeble defence indeed. There were 40 muskets in store, which, with repairing, were capable of being rendered serviceable. Of 1 brass, and 5 iron guns attached to the settlement, the last only was fit for service, and four of the former required carriages. Several of these were nearly buried in the mud on the opposite side of the river. Not a yard of abattis, or other fence-work had been constructed. There was no fixed ammunition ; nor, without great difficulty and delay, was it possible to load the only gun which was provided with a sufficient carriage.

It was soon perceived that the means as well as an organized system of defence were to be originated, without either the materials, or the artificers usually considered necessary for such purposes. In the organization of the men, thirteen African youths attached to the United States' Agency, most of whom had never loaded a musket, were enrolled in the lieutenant's corps, and daily exercised in the use of arms. The guns were, one after another, with infinite labour transported over the river, conveyed to the height of the peninsula, and mounted on rough truck carriages, which, in the event, proved to answer a very good purpose. A master of ordnance was appointed, who, with his assistants, repaired the small arms—made up a quantity of fixed ammunition, and otherwise aided in arranging the details of the service.

The little town was closely environed, except on the side of the river, with the heavy forest in the bosom of which it was situated—thus giving to a savage enemy an important advantage of which it became absolutely necessary to deprive him, by enlarging to the utmost, the cleared space about the buildings. This labour was immediately undertaken, and carried on without any other intermission, than that caused by sickness of the people, and the interruption of other duties equally connected with the safety of the place. But the rains were immoderate and nearly constant.

In addition to these fatiguing labours, was that of maintaining the nightly watch ;—which, from the number of sentinels neces-

sary for the common safety, shortly became more exhausting than all the other burdens of the people. No less than 20 individuals were every night detailed for this duty, after the 31st of August.

At the commencement of the third week after his arrival, the Agent was attacked with fever—and three days afterwards experienced the greater calamity of perceiving the health of his wife assailed with symptoms of a still more alarming character.

The sickness from this period made a rapid progress among the last division of emigrants. On the 1st of September 12 were wholly disabled. The burdens thus thrown upon their brethren accelerated the work of the climate so rapidly, that on the 10th of this month, of the whole expedition, only two remained fit for any kind of service. The Agent was enabled, by a merciful dispensation of Divine Providence, to maintain a difficult struggle with his disorder for four weeks ; in which period, after a night of delirium and suffering, it was not an unusual circumstance for him to be able to spend an entire morning in laying off and directing the execution of the public works.

King George abandoned his town on the Cape, about the 1st of September ; and conveyed all his people and moveables towards the head waters of the Junk river, at about 6 leagues distance. The intercourse between the other people of the tribe and the settlement had nearly terminated ; and the native youths, whose residence on the Cape had been regarded as the best security of the good conduct of the tribe, were daily deserting, in consequence, as it was ascertained, of secret intelligence conveyed them by their friends.

The plan of defence adopted was to station five heavy guns, at the different angles of a triangle which should circumscribe the whole settlement—each of the angles resting on a point of ground sufficiently commanding to enfilade two sides of the triangle, and sweep a considerable extent of ground beyond the lines. The guns at these stations were to be covered by musket proof triangular stockades, of which any two should be sufficient to contain all the settlers in their wings. The brass piece and two swivels mounted on travelling carriages, were stationed in the centre, ready to support the post which might be exposed to the heaviest attack. After completing these detached works, it was in the intention of the Agent, had the enemy allowed the time, to join all together by a paling to be carried quite around the settlement ;—and in the event

of a yet longer respite, to carry on, as rapidly as possible, under the protection of the nearest fortified point, the construction of the Martello tower ; which, as soon as completed, would nearly supersede all the other works ; and by presenting an impregnable barrier to the success of any native force, probably become the instrument of a general and permanent pacification. Connected with these measures of safety, was the extension to the utmost, of the cleared space about the settlement, still leaving the trees and brushwood, after being separated from their trunks, to spread the ground with a tangled hedge, through which nothing should be able to make its way, except the shot from the batteries.

This plan was fully communicated to the most intelligent of the people ; which, in the event of the disability or death of the Agent, they might, it was hoped, so far carry into effect as to ensure the preservation of the settlement.

It was an occasion of grateful acknowledgment to that Divine Power under whose heavy hand the Agent was now obliged to bow, that he had been spared to settle these arrangements, and see them in a train of accomplishment, previous to his being laid entirely aside. It was also a source of melancholy satisfaction that he was permitted to watch the fatal progress of disease in an affectionate wife until the last ray of intellectual light was extinguished by its force, two days before her death. Her life had been one of uncommon devotion and self-denial, inspired by a vigorous and practical faith in the Divine Saviour of the world ; and her end, according to his promise, was ineffable peace. She expired on Sunday the 15th of September.

Two of the emigrants belonging to the last expedition followed in the same week ; at which time there remained but a single individual of the company not on the sick list.

From this date until the first week in November, the Agent continued in an extremely low and dangerous state ; so entirely debilitated in body and mind, as to be nearly incapable of motion, and insensible to every thing except the consciousness of suffering. Two of the posts had been put in complete order in this time, he afterwards learnt, by the persevering exertions of only a part of the settlers. For as is the misfortune of all communities, so it was discovered in this, that there were individuals on whose selfish feelings, the promptings of benevolence, the demands of equity, considerations of the most pressing necessity, and the more

imperative and awful dictates of conscience, could make no effectual impression—and to whom, the moment which delivered them from that coercion of authority, was the signal for their desertion of every public and private duty ! It is but an act of justice to the deserving colonists, to make this discrimination ; and to assure the others, wherever they happen to exist in vagrant wretchedness, that posterity will owe them no thanks that the first settlement on Cape Montserado was not reduced to a heap of carnage and ruins !

(To be Continued.)

Degraded Character of the Coloured Population.

No argument, we believe, can be offered, in favour of the American Colonization Society, more impressive or affecting, than that which is presented by the following statement from the first annual Report of the PRISON DISCIPLINE SOCIETY. It must, we think, awaken, in behalf of our Institution, every humane and patriotic sentiment:

“The first cause, existing in society, of the frequency and increase of crime, is the degraded character of the coloured population. The facts, which are gathered from the penitentiaries, to show how great a proportion of the convicts are coloured, even in those states, where the coloured population is small, show most strikingly, the connection between ignorance and vice.

In Massachusetts, the whole population is	523,000
The coloured population less than	7,000
The whole number of convicts	314
The coloured convicts	50

that is, 1-74th part of the population and nearly 1-6th part of the convicts are coloured.

In Connecticut, the whole population is	275,000
The coloured population about	8,000
The whole number of convicts is	117
The coloured convicts	39

that is, 1-34th part of the population is coloured, and 1-3d part of the convicts.

In Vermont, the whole coloured population is only 918 souls, from whom twenty-four have been furnished for the penitentiary.

In New York, the whole population is	1,372,000
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The coloured population	39,000
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The whole number of convicts in the state prison in the city is	637
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The coloured convicts	154
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that is, 1-35th part of the population is coloured, and about 1-4th part of the convicts.

In New Jersey, the whole population is	277,000
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The coloured population	20,000
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The whole number of convicts	74
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The number of coloured convicts	24
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that is, 1-13th part of the population is coloured, and 1-3d part of the convicts.

In Pennsylvania, the whole population is	1,049,000
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The coloured population	30,000
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In 1816, the whole number of convicts	407
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The number of coloured convicts	176
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In 1819, the whole number of convicts	474
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The number of coloured convicts	165
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that is, 1-34th part of the population is coloured, and more than 1-3d part of the convicts.

It is not necessary to pursue these illustrations. It is sufficiently apparent, that one great cause of the frequency and increase of crime, is neglecting to raise the character of the coloured population.

We derive an argument in favour of education from these facts.—It appears from the above statement, that about one fourth part of all the expense incurred by the states above mentioned, for the support of their criminal institutions, is for the coloured convicts.

We will therefore look a moment at the amount of the expense thus incurred.

In Massachusetts, the whole expense of the state, for the support of its convicts, in the last ten years, has been \$106,405; of which, one sixth part, or, \$17,734 has been expended for the support of its coloured convicts.

In Connecticut, the whole expense of the state, for the support of its convicts in the last fifteen years, has exceeded \$118,500; of which, one third part, or \$37,166, has been expended for the support of its coloured convicts.

In New York, the whole expense of the state, for the support of its convicts, at the city prison, in the twenty-seven years ending December 1823, was \$437,986; of which, one fourth part, or, \$109,166, was for the support of its coloured convicts.

The whole coloured population of the three states above mentioned, viz. Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New York, has been less than 54,000, and for the support of the convicts from this small population, in the time specified above, the three states have expended \$164,066.

Could these states have anticipated these surprising results, and appropriated the money to raise the character of the coloured population, how much better would have been their prospects, and how much less the expense of the states through which they are dispersed, for the support of their coloured convicts.

The expenditure of \$164,000, in so short a time, for the purposes of education, among a people consisting of only 54,000 souls, would very soon raise their character to a level with that of the whites, and diminish the number of convicts from among them, about ten fold.

If, however, their character cannot be raised, where they are, a powerful argument may be derived from these facts, in favour of colonization, and civilized states ought surely to be as willing to expend money on any given part of its population, to prevent crime as to punish it.

We cannot but indulge the hope that the facts disclosed above, if they do not lead to an effort to raise the character of the coloured population, will strengthen the hands and encourage the hearts, of all the friends of colonizing the free people of colour in the northern states."

Masonic Resolves.

No late event, connected with the interest of our Institution, is more gratifying and auspicious, than the adoption of sundry resolutions by the Winder Lodge in Baltimore, recommending the plans of our Society as not unworthy the countenance and pecuniary aid of the whole Masonic Fraternity. We publish the letter of the committee by whom the resolutions were communicated.

BALTIMORE, *June 15th*, 1826.

SIR,—At a regular meeting, last night, of Winder Lodge, No. 77, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted :

“*Resolved*, That out of any money in the funds of the Lodge not otherwise appropriated, and as soon as the same may be at the disposal of the treasurer, \$20 be subscribed to the funds of the American Colonization Society.

“*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed, to forward this donation to the Society, with an expression of our decided approbation of the objects of their benevolent design, and our sincere desire for the complete accomplishment of their truly national and philanthropic work.

“*Resolved*, That the committee consist of the worshipful master, Richard S. Stewart, and brothers Charles C. Harper and John H. B. Latrobe.

“*Resolved*, That the committee be directed to open a correspondence on this important subject, with other Lodges throughout the State of Maryland, and elsewhere.”

We communicate these resolutions to you, sir, with peculiar pleasure. We hope and believe, that the opinions they express will be found to pervade the whole Masonic Fraternity. The work of gradually emancipating and removing our coloured population and planting them on the coast of Africa, without infringing the rights of individuals or disturbing the order of society, seems to us, to come, by its extensive benevolence and permanent charity, within the immediate scope of Masonry, and to recommend itself to every Mason, as being calculated to confer immense and lasting benefits on the human race. While it tends to relieve our own country, the chosen soil of freedom, from a stain and nuisance, it prepares a home and happier futurity for those who are its special objects, and gives a brighter promise than any other plan of the ultimate extension to Africa, of the blessings of civilization and the gospel.

In this small offering, we have not been insensible to the influence of the approaching anniversary of our independence; but we have thought, that a suitable acknowledgment to the Author of all good for the liberty he has granted us, would be the endeavour to extend that liberty to others.

With the assurance of our great personal respect, we are your obedient servants,

R. S. STEWART,	} Committee of Win-
CHARLES C. HARPER,	
JOHN H. B. LATROBE,	
	der Lodge, No. 77.
	} under the jurisdic-
	tion of the Grand
	Lodge of Maryland.

REV. R. R. GURLEY, Resident Agent, A. C. S.

The African Colony.

[FROM NILES' REGISTER.]

We have a large body of interesting papers and facts relative to this colony, which is rapidly rising into importance, and all shall be published in a regular and connected order, before long, for the public information. It is quite evident now, or at least highly probable, that we may build up a powerful people on the Western coast of that benighted quarter of the world, who shall extend their settlements into the interior, as we ourselves have done, and command the native tribes as we do; and thereby spread light and knowledge, civilization and religion, even along the yet unknown shores of the mysterious Niger, and totally break up at least the external trade in slaves, but without much, if any, sensible effect to decrease our own colored population. However, it will be a great thing to have a spot provided, to which our free blacks may proceed, with an assurance that their industry will be crowned with prosperity and peace, and where their children will have a country and a home. Nor will it be less interesting because of the opportunity which it may continually offer to liberal and humane persons, who would gladly emancipate their slaves, if convinced that their condition would be benefitted. We always approved of this project—for it is indeed a humane one—though we questioned its efficiency to accomplish the grand first purpose proposed; but it is not a little remarkable that some who were enthusiasts in it, and sought the aid of the general government to support it, as an outlet for our free colored population, seem disposed to abandon it as if because of its success, and to have found out that it is *unconstitutional* for the United States to take any part in the proceeding!

The colonists are healthy, and rapidly increasing; the bounds of the colony have been extended, and already the village of Monrovia is a place of considerable trade—many coasting and other vessels arriving and departing; and there is a growing intercourse with the interior. The people are diligent and orderly, and apparently sensible of the blessings that must flow upon those of their own color, as well as on themselves, by the success of the measures now in progress to build up a new nation of enlightened blacks. Education is well attended to, and all persons are taught that they may be useful to themselves and others.

There are two well disciplined companies of militia, and the colony now is, or soon will be, fully able to defend itself against any invasion of the neighbouring tribes—which, at present, however, are peaceable : and the petty kings appear quite pleased with the improvements that are making in their neighborhood. It may, nevertheless, so turn out, that the march of civilization will overcome their barbarous power, and revolutionize the whole policy and polity of their kingdoms and states. It is very possible that, in fifteen or twenty years, the commerce of Liberia will employ a greater amount of American tonnage than is now employed in the trade carried on with all the Northern Powers of Europe, to whom we send ministers and agents, and of whose favor and proceedings we are so jealous, because of that trade.

Intelligence.

The most disgraceful traffic in slaves is still prosecuted, it would seem, with the greatest activity. It is asserted that at least sixty thousand Africans have been sold from the coast of Africa during the last year. It is added that the English squadron on the African coast has captured and liberated three thousand six hundred slaves, within the last twelve months.

KINGSTON, (*Jamaica*) May 1.

Slave Ship.—The armed schooner *Speedwell* went into Port Royal on the 26th of April, and took in with her, the slave brig *Alcide*, which she detained on the 21st, in lat. 19, 30, long. 79. The *Alcide* had on board 337 slaves; she is under French colours, and is reported to be from Cape Lopez, and bound to Martinique, but it is strongly suspected that her destination was Cuba.

Messrs Cummings, Hilliard and Co. are engaged in publishing the very interesting and valuable journal of Denham, Clapperton and Ouderly in Africa, and we hope before many weeks to present our readers with a review of its contents.

A meeting has lately been held in Liverpool, to petition parliament for the abolition of West Indian slavery. A paper remarks, that similar petitions have been forwarded to parliament, in the present session, from almost every town in the kingdom.

British West Indies—As a proof how little has been hitherto actually effected for the amelioration of colonial bondage, notwithstanding all our zeal

and warm professions, our speeches and petitions our parliamentary resolutions, and official remonstrances, and ministerial pledges, we subjoin the following brief statement of facts on the subject.

Only five of the colonies, out of thirteen, having legislatures of their own, have done any thing whatsoever towards carrying the resolutions of the 15th May, 1823, into effect; and of these five, none have done any thing with respect to religious instruction. One only (Tobago) has abolished Sunday markets. Four only (Tobago, Grenada, St. Vincent's, and Dominica) have given a very limited protection, in certain cases, to the property of slaves. Two only (Tobago and Grenada) have lowered the scale of arbitrary punishment by the master. Two only (Grenada and St. Vincent's) have made a mere show of abolishing the driving-whip. Three only (Tobago, Grenada, and St. Vincent's) have admitted the evidence of slaves in a very limited degree. None have given to the slave the power of effecting his manumission by purchase. One only (Bahamas) has legalized marriage, and two (Grenada and St. Vincent's) have permitted it in certain cases. One only (Bahamas) has prohibited the separation of families, either by private or judicial sale; and one only (Grenada) has prohibited it by judicial sale. None have abolished the flogging of females. None have prohibited the sale of slaves detached from the estate. None have established saving-banks. After reading this statement, let any man look carefully at the vain and inefficient, and often contradictory and unjust, provisions by which it is pretended to ensure even the scanty measure of improvement which the most partial advocate of the colonies can venture to assert; and he must feel convinced, that no useful or consistent legislation is to be expected by continuing to pursue the present course. Delay and disappointment can be its only results.—*Christ. Observer.*

On the 19th of May, Mr. Brougham brought forward his long promised motion on the subject of slavery in the West Indies, which was to the following effect:

"That the house had observed with deep regret that nothing had been done by the Assemblies, in compliance with the wishes of lord Bathurst's instructions, and of the wishes of that house, expressed in its resolution of May, 1823, touching the condition of the slaves; and that the house, early in the next session of parliament, will take into its serious consideration the means of carrying the resolution of 1823, into effect."

Mr. Canning, at a late hour, closed the debate, by taking a luminous review of all the arguments which had been urged, and deprecating any departure from that system of conciliation which had hitherto been pursued, unless it should be met by such a spirit of contumacy and resistance by the Colonial Assemblies, as would justify the employment of a more decisive one. The Right Hon. Gentleman repeated his former declarations, that it was the fixed determination of Government to come to parliament for powers to give full effect to its intentions, should the necessity for such a step unfortunately occur. We trust however it will not. The colonists must see and feel that their own interests are closely identified, in this question, with the policy of the parent state, and that whatever may be the supposed or real evils attendant

upon acting in conformity with that policy, those that would result from opposition to it, must be infinitely greater.

Mr. Brougham's motion was lost by a majority of sixty-two.

Slavery Prohibition in Louisiana.—At the late session of the Legislature of Louisiana, an act was passed prohibiting the further introduction of slaves into that state for sale. The following is an abstract of the act :

SEC. 1. No person shall, after the first day of June, 1826, bring into this state any slave, with the intent to sell or hire the same, under the penalty of being punished by imprisonment not exceeding two years, and fined not exceeding one thousand dollars, and moreover shall forfeit the said slave or slaves.

SEC. 2. That hereafter any person who has a *bona fide* intention to emigrate to this state, with a view to become an inhabitant thereof, shall be allowed to bring with them their slaves, and employ the same within the limits of the state: Provided, that any slaves so brought in by an emigrant shall not be sold or exchanged for the term of two years from the time they were brought into the state, under a penalty of a forfeiture of the slaves so sold.

SEC. 3. Any *bona fide* citizen of this state shall be allowed to bring therein and employ any slaves of which he may be the lawful owner; provided, that any slaves brought into this state by any citizen thereof, under the provisions of this section, shall not be sold or exchanged until after said slaves have been two years within the state, under the penalty of forfeiting the aforesaid slaves.

SEC. 4. Any slave or slaves brought into this state in contravention of any of the provisions of this act, shall, after due condemnation, by any court of competent jurisdiction, be sold after ten day's notice by the sheriff of the parish in which said slaves have been condemned, and the nett proceeds of said slaves, when sold, shall be paid over, one fourth to the informer or informers, and the other three fourths to the treasurer of the state.

A negro died suddenly on Thursday at the house of correction in Boston. In noticing the coroner's inquest, the Boston Traveller says: "It is very remarkable that this man spoke five languages correctly and fluently; could repeat Shakspeare from beginning to end, and possessed, beside this, an uncommon fund of drollery. During the greater part of Napoleon's wars, he was a servant to different officers of distinction, where he had an opportunity of acquiring information and perfecting himself in waggishness. Intemperance was probably the cause of his death, resulting in a general disease and disorganization of important organs."

The *yearly meeting of the Society of Friends*, for New-England, was holden last week at Newport, R. I. We understand that *one thousand dollars* was raised, by subscription, to aid in colonizing the slaves who have fallen by inheritance into the hands of members of the Society, in North Carolina, where the manumission of slaves is prohibited unless they are sent out of the state.

It is stated in the Courier, that the British do not intend to abandon Cape Coast Castle.

AFRICA. *Lake Tchad.*—The great lake so called, in the interior of Africa, examined by Major Denham and his fellow-travellers, is one of the most remarkable in the world. It is situated in 16 degrees of east longitude, and $13\frac{1}{2}$ of north latitude; is about 2,000 miles long from east to west, by 150 broad, and occupies nearly the precise position of the swamp or morass of Wangara, in Arrowsmith's map, in which swamp the Joliba or Niger is supposed to terminate. It covers a surface about as large as the two American lakes Erie and Ontario, both together. The Tchad receives a river called the Yeou, about 50 yards broad in the dry season, which has its source about 400 miles distant in the south-west, and which was well ascertained not to be the Niger. Another river, six times as large, with a delta of 50 miles broad at its embouchure, flows into the lake from the south, and is called the Shary, which may be, but most probably is not, the river alluded to. What is rather a puzzling fact in physical geography, this lake, though it has no efflux, is fresh, and yet saline incrustations are found in some parts of the country around, and small salt pools are found close to its northern margin. It was distinctly stated, however, to Major Denham, that formerly a stream flowed out of it on the east side, and carried its waters to the Bahrael Ghazal, which was a lake or a swamp now dried up. The dry bed of this stream still remains filled with trees, and covered with herbage, and the old people still believe that the Tchad is yearly diminishing. The lake Tchad has a number of islands on its eastern side, which are inhabited by the Biddomahs, a race of piratical savages, who come in fleets of a hundred boats, and rob or carry into slavery the people living near its banks. The lake swells greatly when the periodical rains fall, and vast numbers of elephants, lions, and hyænas, driven from their retreats on its banks by the waters, destroy the small crops of the villagers, and carry off the cattle or the women who are sent to watch the fields. Sometimes these animals attack the villages.

There have been printed, by order of parliament, details to the expenditure of 121,681*l.* "for articles for liberated Africans, and presents to Moorish chiefs." The items are curious—showing at once the character of very partially civilized wants, and the estimation in which certain European or British goods are held. Thus there were supplied, 15,000 yards of check, for shirts for males; 8,000 yards blue or gray cloth, for males; 5,000 pairs braces; 800 pick axes; 2,000 bill hooks; 2,000 gimlets; many carpenters' saws; 1,000 tailors' and girls' thimbles; 100 bodkins; 300*lbs.* white thread; 50,000 needles, and numerous spoons, masons' chisels, shoemakers' tools, nails, tape, hats, 20,000*lbs.* soap, &c.—*Niles' Register.*

SOUTHERN AFRICA. Although the following letter is not of recent date, yet, as containing in a very few lines the substance of Mr. Campbell's discoveries, in his last journey beyond the British frontier in Southern Africa, we have thought it deserving of insertion:—"Mr. Campbell and I have had a long route up the country; about 300 miles north-east of Lattakoo; we passed two tribes, and arrived among the people called Marootses, about 16,000 strong living upon a high mountain, having stone walls round their houses and for

their cattle. They melt their own iron and copper from the ore. The rivers run eastwardly from this place ; most of the people are inoculated for the small pox, an art they got from a people on the north-west ; their language is the same as that at Lattakoo. I am of a decided opinion that poor Dr. Cowen and party were not murdered by the Wanketyen ; but, if murdered, they must have been murdered nearer Mozambique : the natives insist that they are still alive.”—*Ibid.*

MUNGO PARK.

A curious document agreeing very accurately with the accounts contained in the Arabic MSS. obtained in other parts of Africa, and with the narrative given by the intelligent negro, the brother of Park’s guide, is found in the journal of Denham and Clapperton :

A document relating to the death of Mungo Park.

“Hence be it known, that some christians came to the town of Youri, in the kingdom of Yaoor and landed, and purchased provisions, as onions, and other things ; and they sent a present to the king of Yaoor. The said king desired them to wait until he should send them a messenger, but they were frightened, and went away by the sea (river.) They arrived at the town called Bosso, or Boossa, and their ship then rubbed (struck) upon a rock, and all of them perished in the river.

This fact is within our knowledge, and peace be the end.

It is genuine from Mohammed bar Dehmann.”

Beautiful Simplicity of Manners in Africa.

“The country beyond Katagum began to change its character, rising into ridges of hills running east and west, their summits covered with trees, and their sides and the valleys well peopled and cultivated, while numerous herds of cattle were grazing on the plains. Crowds of people were passing on the road on their return from the Kano market, some carrying their goods on their heads, some on bullocks, and others on asses. As our traveller advanced, the hills became broken, and large detached blocks of stone ‘gave a romantic appearance to the neat huts clustering round the base, and to the fine plantations of cotton, tobacco, and indigo, which are separated from one another by rows of date trees, and are shaded by other large, umbrageous trees, of whose names I am ignorant.’ He passed several walled towns, some of them deserted, the inhabitants having been carried off at the Fe-

latah conquest; the country however still highly cultivated, and towns and villages numerous. 'The Felatah women sat spinning cotton by the road side, offering for sale to the passing caravans, gussub water, roast meat, sweet potatoes, cashew nuts, &c.:' and he adds, 'from time to time they surveyed themselves, with whimsical complacency, in a little pocket mirror.' Clapperton speaks highly in praise of these females. In his illness they attended him with as much kindness and care as if they had been his near relations. Nor was he in return ungrateful, or insensible to their charms. An attack of the ague had obliged him to halt and to rest all day under the shade of a tree:—

'A pretty Felatah girl, going to market with milk and butter, neat and spruce in her attire as a Cheshire dairy-maid, here accosted me with infinite archness and grace. She said I was of her own nation; and, after much amusing small talk, I pressed her, in jest, to accompany me on my journey, while she parried my solicitations with roguish glee, by referring me to her father and mother. I don't know how it happened, but her presence seemed to dispel the effects of the ague. To this trifling and innocent memorial of a face and form, seen that day for the first and last time, but which I shall not readily forget, I may add the more interesting information to the good housewives of my own country, that the making of butter such as ours is confined to the nation of the Felatahs, and that it is both clean and excellent. So much is this domestic art cultivated, that from an useful prejudice or superstition, it is deemed unlucky to sell new milk; it may, however, be bestowed as a gift. Butter is also made in other parts of central Africa, but sold in an oily fluid state something like honey.'

The weather clear and fine : we rode to day through little valleys, delightfully green, lying between high ridges of granite; and, to add to the beauty of the scenery, there were many clear springs, issuing out of the rocks, where young women were employed drawing water. I asked several times for a gourd of water, by way of excuse to enter into conversation with them. Bending gracefully on one knee, and displaying at the same time teeth of pearly whiteness, and eyes of the blackest lustre, they presented it to me on horseback, and appeared highly delighted when I thanked them for their civility: remarking to one another, "did you hear the white man thank me?"

Manumissions.

SAMPSON DAVID, Esq. a member of the legislature of Tennessee, who died in Jacksonboro' a few weeks ago, has provided in his will, that all his negroes, 22 in number, which are mostly young, should be manumitted in the year 1840, or at his wife's death, should that happen sooner; and has made ample provision for their removal to a foreign colony, or to a free state, at their own option.—*Niles' Reg.*

Mr. HERBERT B. ELDER, who lately died in Petersburg, Va. has left 20 slaves to be transported as freemen, by the first opportunity, to the Colony in Liberia.

It is with great pleasure we add, that Mr. HENRY ROBERTSON, late of Hampton, Va. has left seven slaves free, with a legacy of fifty dollars for each, to aid their removal and comfortable settlement in Africa. These are gratifying indications of an increasing disposition to afford to those now excluded from the benefits of our Institution, a share in the blessings of African Colonization.

Society for the education of African youth.

On the third Monday in April last, a meeting of the friends to African education was held in Newark, New-Jersey, where a very respectable number both of the clergy and laity of the state, expressed a deep interest in the object for which they were convened. An association was organized, (the name of which is at the head of this notice,) a constitution adopted, and seven trustees elected for the management of its concerns. The trustees will meet again on the 1st Monday in August, to adopt further measures for the accomplishment of their design. We indulge great hopes that the Kusciusko fund, may be applied in some way, to advance the noble purposes of this Institution, and should this be the case, no doubt is entertained, that the public charities will soon establish it on a broad and durable foundation. A few liberal donations from the opulent of our country, added to the generous bequest of Gen. Kusciusko, would build up a seminary of immense utility to Africa and the world. May a plan so well commenced, not fail of a completion.

To the friends of our cause.

It will not be forgotten, we hope, that the season most favorable for emigration to Liberia is near; that a sufficient number of persons are disposed to embark; that the settlement is in want of sundry articles, particularly of books for the schools, and that if any expedition is to sail from our shores the present year, the means for its outfit should be furnished before the middle of September. Of the success which attended the effort of the churches on the fourth of July, and on the Sabbaths next to that day, we are as yet but little informed. In Light street church, Baltimore, after a discourse by the Rev. Mr. Bascom, a collection was taken up amounting to one hundred and eighty-four dollars, and in Park street church, Boston, after an address by the Rev. Mr. Knowles, one hundred and nineteen dollars were contributed. We are persuaded, however, that the vigorous aid of the auxiliary societies will be required, to accomplish the purpose of sending an expedition to Liberia, in the approaching autumn. We trust the Officers of these institutions will feel the importance of remitting their annual donations to our Treasurer, Richard Smith, Esq. as soon as practicable.

Such fourth of July collections as may be received, with other recent donations, will be published in our next number.

Poetry.

On reading the biography of the Rev. Samuel J. Mills.

Oh Africk! raise thy voice and weep
 For him who sought to heal thy woe,
 Whose bones beneath the briny deep
 Bleach where the pearl and coral glow.

Unfetter'd by the wiles of earth,
 And girded for the race of heaven,
 Even from his dedicated birth
 To God and thee his soul was given.

In hermit cells of prayerful thought,
 In meditation's holy sphere,
 He nursed that sacred flame which sought
 The darkness of a world to cheer.

Our western wilds where outcasts roam,
 Sad India's vales with blood defac'd,
 Blest Obookiah's sea-girt home
 The ardour of his zeal embrac'd.

But thou, indebted clime, that drew
 Through torrid seas his stranger sail,
 Whose tall cliffs heard his fond adieu,
 Pour forth the wildest, bitterest wail.

L. H. S.

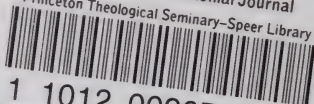


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